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FRATERNAL COOPERATION OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

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The countries of the socialist camp occupy more than one fourth of the world's territory, contain about 35 percent of its population, and produce almost 30 percent of the world's industrial output.

In 1955, the volume of industrial output in the USSR was more than 4.5 times greater than the prewar level. In Czechoslovakia it was 2.4 times greater; in the People's Republic of China, more than double; in Hungary, 3.5 times greater; in Rumania, 3 times greater; in Bulgaria, more than 5 times greater; and in Albania, more than 11 times greater.

The European People's Democracies now produce 3 times more electric power, 2.8 times more pig iron, 2.2 times more steel than before World War II, and extract almost twice as much petroleum and coal.

The chief economic goal of the socialist countries is to overtake and surpass the per capita output of the capitalist countries. New technology plays an important part in the fulfillment of this goal.

In the last 5 years, the USSR supplied the European People's Democracies with more than 450 capital construction plans, more than 1,000 sets of machine drawings, and about 700 technological processes for the manufacture of various products. The USSR received in return about 30 capital construction plans, about 500 sets of drawings of machinery and equipment, and more than 550 technological processes.

The USSR is assisting the People's Democracies in the construction of experimental atomic boilers with a thermal capacity of up to 5,000 kilowatts each. The USSR is not only furnishing the necessary equipment, but is also providing the needed amount of fissionable materials.

For the purpose of further expanding the possibilities of the peaceful use of atomic energy, representatives of the socialist countries recently decided to form the United Institute of Nuclear Research in Moscow.

There is also a widespread exchange of seed specimens, grafts, seedlings of various types, and wild herbs. The USSR has furnished the European People's Democracies with specimens of more than 500 types of agricultural crops and has received more than 300 in exchange.

Also important is the granting of technical assistance. More than 1,500 specialists have been sent from the USSR to the European People's Democracies and more than 2,300 have been received by the USSR. The USSR is assisting the People's Democracies in the construction of 391 enterprises and more than 70 individual shops and installations.

Evidence of this assistance is in the following table:

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<u>Industrial Products</u>	<u>Prewar Production Volume in People's Democracies</u>	<u>Capacity of Enterprises Being Built in People's Democracies With USSR Aid</u>
Steel (in tons)	7,000,000	9,000,000
Aluminum (in tons)	65,000	45,000
Lead (in tons)	53,000	22,000
Nitrogen fertilizers (in tons)	295,000	380,000
Tractors (in units)	2,000	50,000
Trucks (in units)	18,000	115,000

In addition, enterprises under construction will provide for a growth of copper production of 65,000 tons per year and 30,000 tons of tin. Eight petroleum refineries will provide for an output of 4 million tons of petroleum products per year. Fifty-five electric power stations will increase capacity by 5.4 million kilowatts.

Rumania and Hungary are jointly building chemical combines for the utilization of Rumanian natural gas. Hungary is receiving assistance from Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the GDR in the extraction of alumina, and, in turn, is helping these countries set-up their aluminum production.

Poland and the GDR are assisting Rumania in the construction of a cellulose plant. Czechoslovakia has assisted Bulgaria in the construction of electric power stations, the capacity of which are greater than all the electric power stations of prewar Bulgaria.

One of the manifestations of friendship and mutual assistance among the socialist countries is the construction of the largest bridge in Europe across the Danube connecting Rumania and Bulgaria. In addition to Bulgaria and Rumania, the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary also took part in the construction of the bridge.

The main line railroads, Chi-ning--Erh-lien--Ulan-Bator, and Lan-chou--Urumchi--Alma-Ata, built with the participation of the USSR, are also important to the development of economic ties of the socialist countries. The first of these railroads went into operation in January.

The 20th Party Congress outlined the path of the further development of economic relations between the USSR and the other socialist countries. Most important is the task of solving the problem of closer coordination of economic plans, and cooperation and specialization of production of the USSR and the People's Democracies. In the directives of the 20th Party Congress, it is stated that "the USSR will in every way expand cooperation with the People's Democracies for the most efficient utilization, in the interests of each country and the socialist camp as a whole, of economic resources and production capacities by means of coordinating the development of individual branches of the national economy, specialization and cooperation of production, and also by means of an exchange of scientific and technical achievements and advanced production experience."

Such cooperation signifies the beginning of a new stage in the development of relations among the socialist countries.

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In resolving the tasks of building socialism on the basis of international division of labor, socialist specialization of production is very important. The latter stems, first of all, from the necessity of the most efficient utilization of natural conditions and resources of each region, and, at the same time, attempts to insure the most rapid development of productive forces of the socialist countries.

Specialization of production among countries of the socialist camp is achieved along two lines. One lies in the development in each country of those branches of the economy for which the most suitable conditions exist and in the development of which the fraternal countries are interested. The second line is the specialization of enterprises turning out homogeneous products. Such specialization means the further expansion of international division of labor. For several years the European People's Democracies have been practicing specialization in the production of bearings and rolled ferrous metals, and in several machine-building operations.

Work on the coordination of plans for economic development in the area of international socialist division of labor and the further specialization of production has now achieved a higher level. At the session of the Council of Economic Mutual Assistance held in December 1955 in Budapest, recommendations to the participants for specialization in the production of trucks and passenger cars, tractors, railroad cars, and several types of agricultural machines were adopted.

The council also recommended to these countries that they conclude among themselves during 1956 long-term agreements for the reciprocal delivery of commodities in the next 5 years.

The planned development of the socialist economy allows for the most efficient combination of specialization with organized cooperation on the scale of the entire people's democratic camp. Such a development furnishes tremendous opportunities for increasing the quality of output and reducing its cost. It allows for the widespread organization of mass production, and the successful application on a broad scale of the achievements of science and technology. The carrying out of specialization of production among these countries is, of course, combined with the complex development of the economy. This means that each country can most efficiently use its own resources of raw materials and manpower.

In the peaceful competition of the two systems -- capitalist and socialist -- the socialist is incomparably superior. The rates of industrial development bear graphic testimony to this.

In 1955, the volume of industrial output in the USSR and the People's Democracies was almost 3.8 times greater than the prewar output. Capitalist output in 1955 exceeded the prewar level only 97 percent.

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